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SUBJECT:

CIRCULTRY, FELAT TIMING, AND OPERATION OF WHI TAPE CUTPUT

Tos

6345 Engineers

From:

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Abstract:

Self-explanatory relay timing diagrams accompanied by a brief description of relay operating cycles and circuitry problems encountered cover essential details of operation of WWA Tapa Output Equipment for various output modes. A new type of tim-

ing diagram is introduced.

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I. Preliminary Cabling of Units and Switch Settings

The relay cabinet is installed in Rack TC-13 in NW1 Test Control. A 36-conductor cable connects the various indicator lamp circuits to the gas tube relay register on the relay panel to accomplish data transfer from NW1 to the Tapa Output Equipment. A 33-conductor cable connects the relay panel with the Remote Control Unit which is located on a table in the Test Control Room along with the tapa units.

The reader, printer, punch, and Remote Control Unit are cabled in accordance with attached print A-36835; cabling is relatively simple and fool-proof, since receptacles with corresponding letter and unit designations are merely connected with cables provided.

The various switches contained in the reader, printer, and punch enable the units to be used interchangeably in any of the tape preparation, tape checking, and WWI input systems without wiring changes. In order to operate these units as WWI Tape Output Equipment, switches must be set as follows.

A. Printer:

- 1. Keep "On-Off" switch at the left side of the printer keyboard in the "off" position until system is ready to be used.
- 2. Throw "Insert" switch toward the rear of the machine.
- 3. Always keep a sheet of paper in machine to protect platen from direct contact with type bar.

B. Reader:

- 1. Set "On-Off" switch (above cable receptacles) to "OFF".
- 2. Set "Marginal Check Normal" switch to "NORMAL".
- 3. Set "Normal Stop Read Complements" switch to "READ COMPLEMENTS".
- 4. Set "Normal Clutch Control Jumped" switch to "NORMAL".
- 5. Place slotted metal shim under tape hold-down clamp so that sprocket teeth clear ends of slot. Be sure tape hold-down clamp is properly secured.

C. Punch:

- 1. Set "On-Off" switch to "ON".
- 2. Set right-hand switch to "NORMAL" if reproduction of feedout holes is not desired.
- 3. Set "Marginal Check Normal" switch to "NORMAL".

Preferably, system power should be turned on by means of the on-off switch at the left side of the printer, otherwise the printer keyboard is deprived of the mechanical interlock which prevents the keys from being accidently depressed while the system is not in use. If this happens, a number of type bars may fly up in a tangle and jam the machine when the

power is turned on at the punch.

Finally, press the "Glear" push button on the Remote Control Panel, and them press the "Start" button on the printer. The former clears the gas tube register of any random "ones" which may have resulted from previous operations, and the latter makes the tape units and printer operative, as described in Section VI, page 8. The system may then be manually stopped at any time by pressing the "stop" button on the printer. To shut down the tape output equipment, operate the power "on-off" switch on the printer.

The rotary control switch (S-1) on the relay panel must be set to correspond to the desired type of WWI data output, as shown in the tabulation "DIGIT CONNECTIONS TO SWITCH" on Dwg. R-35927-2. Table I shows the connections obtained for each of the eight switch positions:

TABLE I

Switch Position	Source of WWI Data Output to Gas Tube Register
A	Accumulator (digits 10 through 15) and Program Register (digit 9)
В	Flip-Flop Storage Register #2 (digits 10 through 15) and Program Register (digit 9)
C	Flip-Flop Storage Register #2 (digits 9 through 15)
D	Program Counter (digits 8 through 14)
E	Control Switch (digits O through 4) and Accumulator (digits O and 1)
F	Accumulator (digita 2 through 8)
G	Accumulator (digits 9 through 15)

II. "Words Only" Mode of Operation

A detailed analysis of Tape Output Equipment operation is accomplished with the aid of special timing diagrams developed by the writer and introduced here for the first time. The timing diagrams not only show the timing of every relay, contact, and electromechanical component in the system, but flow paths (cause and effect) as well. To aid in an understanding of these diagrams, a short list of symbols and their interpretations are shown at the bottom of each sheet. Entries in the left hand column include all relay coils, relay contacts, cam driven contacts, and tape unit electro-mechanical components, whether or not they are utilized in a particular mode of operation.

In the "Words Only" tape output mode, the printer records a char-

acter for each and every six-digit "word" placed in the output register by WNI. Switches on the remote control panel are set to "PRINTER ON", "FUNCH ON", "FRINT EVERY CHARACTER", and "LOCK CONTROL, WWI INPUT", and are designated on Drawing R-35927 by S8, S7, S6, and S5 respectively.

Referring now to relay timing diagram D-37308, an operating cycle is immediately initiated by a O.1-microsecond "Print" pulse from WWI which appears at essentially the same instant that a word read into the output register causes the associated indicator-lamp circuits to drive positive the grids of the corresponding 2D21's in the gas tube register. Both of these effects are indicated on the timing diagram at 0 ms.

The "Print" pulse, stretched to approximately 4 microseconds by the blocking oscillator circuit of V-1, fires "Print" thyratron V-2 and energizes "Print" relay K-1. At 6 ms, "b" contact K-1-2 transfers the "Completion Signal" circuit from +90 volts to -30 volts. As K-1 closes in, "a" contact K-1-13 closes at 9 ms, seals in K-1 via "b" contact K-2-1, and conveniently shorts out and decionizes the "Print" thyratron at the same time. As "a" contact K-1-5 closes, plate voltage now applied to the relay register fires only those gas tubes with positive control grids, and energizes the corresponding register relays, (K-12 for example, which in turn closes "a" contacts K-12-5 and K-12-7 at 20 ms). Closing of remaining "a" contact K-1-6 energizes the reader clutch magnet, and after a 32-ms clutch mechanism delay, the reader cam shaft begins its rotation at 41 ms.

Closing of the "D-C Common" contact in the reader at 48 ms energizes the "translator" relays and punch selector magnets through register relay "a" contacts on the Reader Readout and Punch Readout buses respectively, and also energizes "D-C Common" relay K-2 directly. For example, with register relay K-12 closed, translator relay K-102 is energized through "a" contact K-12-5 on the Reader Readout Bus, and punch selector magnet K-202 is energized through "a" contact K-12-7. The tape punch now performs an automatic 74-ms electro-mechanical cycle of rotating the cam-shaft, actuating the selected punch mechanisms to punch the desired holes, de-energizing the clutch magnet, and advancing the tape for the next cycle.

At 55 ms, "b" contact K-2-1 opens and breaks the seal-in circuit of "a" contact K-1-13, de-energizing "Frint" relay K-1. At 57 ms, "a" contact K-2-5 closes to maintain plate voltage on the relay register when "a" contact K-1-5 subsequently opens.

At 60 ms, Closing of the reader "A-C Common" contact energizes the desired printer solenoid through "a" and "b" contacts on the translator relay bank, and the printer then types the corresponding character.

At 66 ms, as mentioned above, "a" contact K-1-5 opens, (relay register plate voltage is still maintained by "a" contact K-2-10), and "a" contact K-1-6 deenergizes the reader clutch magnet. Closing of "c" contact K-1-2 at 68 ms issues no "Completion" signal at this premature time because "b" contact K-2-8 is still open. Likewise, closing of the reader Feedout contact at 95 ms and its opening at 118 ms has no effect, since this contact is not used for the "Words Only" mode.

At 105 ms, opening of the "A-C Common" contact de-energizes the printer solenoid, and at 106 ms, opening of the "D-C Common" contact de-energizes the translator relays (K-102), the punch selector magnets (K-202), and "D-C Common" relay K-2.

At 137 ms, opening of "a" contact K-2-5 now removes plate voltage from the relay register (de-energizing K-12), closing of "b" contact K-2-6 sets up the "Completion" signal circuit whereupon closing of "b" contact K-12-2 in the relay register at 147

ms places +90 volts on the "Completion" signal line to terminal 12 and impresses a positive 120-volt pulse on the control grid of a 2D21 pulse generator (ref. Drawing R-33486) whose output is a O.l-microsecond "Completion" pulse. This pulse signals WWI to clear the storage register, read into it the next word, and send a O.l microsecond "Print" pulse to the Tape Output Equipment to start the next cycle.

III. Relay Counter Fresetting Feature for "Word-Complement" Mode of Operation

Operation of individual tape units is identical to that of the "Words Only" mode, but in addition a scale-of-two relay counter is needed to permit the printer to type a character corresponding to the particular 6-digit "Word" in the gas tube relay register during punching of the word in paper tape, and then to keep the printer inoperative during the next cycle while the complement is being punched.

In employing a relay counter, it is possible to have the counter in the wrong position at the start of a train of data because of some previous usage, an unexpected switching transient, or some manipulation of tape equipment, so that it is necessary to arrange for some method of presetting this counter immediately before recording "Word-Complement" data. Accordingly, at least one six-"zero" "Blank" signal (meaningless to the printer) must be provided by WWI as the "Blank Preset" signal. Since more than one "Blank" signal may be needed for other WWI functions, the relay counter has been arranged so that it remains in the position preset by the first "Blank" signal regardless of the number of similar "Blank" signals following.

Since operation of the tape units is essentially the same in all modes, a description of timing relations in the relay counter will be considered sufficient for the "Word-Complement" mode. For this mode, switch S6 is set to "Words and Complements".

Referring now to the "Blank" Signal Preset timing diagram (drawing D-37301), all four counter relays (K-4 through K-7) and "Blank Preset" relay K-8 are initially unenergized. As before, the preset cycle is initiated by a WWI "Print" signal which fires "Print" thyratron V-2, and energizes "Print" relay K-1 at t = 0 ms. Closing in of K-1 energizes "D-C Common" relay K-2 and reader clutch magnet K-107, and decionizes "Print" thyratron V-2. Again curing the reader mechanical cycle, "D-C Common" contact S-102 closes at 42 ms and energizes "D-C Common" relay K-2, which de-energizes "Print" relay K-2 and the reader clutch magnet. Note that in this mode, there is no meaningful data yet present in the relay register because an all-zero "Blank Preset" stored in the WWI output register has kept all seven control grids of the gas tube register (V-3 through V-9) biased to -35 volts, and therefore application of plate voltage to the gas tube register at 50 ms fails to energize any of the register relays (K-11 through K-16). Hence no signal gets through translator relays and selector magnets to actuate the tape punch or printer.

Departure from a regular mode of operation now occurs at 88 ms when closing of reader "Feedout" contact S-101 energizes "Switch" relay K-4 of the relay counter through switch S6-2 which was set in the "Word-Complement" position. At 92 ms, "a" contact K-4-3 closes and energizes "Count" relay K-5 through "b" contact K-6-2, and the relay then seals in through "a" contact K-5-9.

Reopening of "Feedout" contact S-101 at 110 ms de-energizes "Switch" relay K-4, opening "a" contact K-4-3. This now has no effect on "Count" relay K-5 since it is sealed in through its own contact. However, closing of "b" contact K-4-1 energizes "Interlock Pulse" relay K-7 through "a" contact K-5-3 and the preset cycle is completed with the closing of "b" contact K-2-8 and issuance of a "Completion" signal. The equipment is now ready to punch and print the next meaningful character from WWI wideh

will be a word, punch the following complement only, and then repeat the cycle as long as WWI continues to furnish words and complements. Reley action for this operation will be briefly discussed under Section V, page 7.

IV. Effect of Multiple "Blank Preset" Signals on Relay Counter Setting

Consider now that a second "Blank Preset" signal is furnished by WNl instead of a "Word", as shown on timing diagram D-37301. Relays K-1, K-2, and the reader perform the same functions as before, with the exception that "a" contect K-5-6 is now closed at 185 ms and 115 volts a-c is applied to "Blank or Preset" relay K-8. As the reader cycle continues, "Feedout" cam contact S-101 closes at 220 ms and energizes "Switch" relay K-4 as before, except that "b" contact K-4-1 opening at 222 ms now de-energizes "Interlock Pulse" relay K-7.

At this point it is important to note that the purpose of "Interlock Pulse" relay K-7 is to deprive "Count Interlock" relay K-6 of any voltage before "Blank or Preset" relay K-8 can drop out. This is just about accomplished, but because of the fast drop-out time of K-8, an occasional 1-ms pulse does tickle "Count Interlock" relay K-6 at 231 ms. At no time has this critical timing point given rise to operational errors either in extensive tests required for this report or during normal operation with WWI, since marginal variation of voltages only contributes to a faster drop-out of "Interlock Pulse" relay K-7 and complete disappearance of this very short pulse. The pulse would have to be of at least 5 ms duration before a drop-out of "Count" relay K-5 and the resultant tripping of the relay counter to the opposite state would be effected.

To continue with the remainder of this second "Blank" signal cycle, opening of reader "Feedout" cam contact S-101 at 242 ms de-energizes "Switch" relay K-4, closing "b" contact K-4-1 at 248 ms and restoring all relays of the counter to their original preset positions as established by the first "Blank or Preset" signal. Reclosing of "b" contact K-2-8 at 264 ms ("D-C Common" relay K-2 having been previously de-energized at 232 ms by opening of the reader "D-C Common" contact) then initiates the "Completion" signal to WWI, signifying that the Tape Output Equipment has completed a cycle and is awaiting another "Blank" signal or a "Word".

V. "Word-Complement" Mode of Operation

Referring now to timing diagram D-37303, which is a continuation of D-37301 in regards to the elapsed time scale, relay and tape unit timing in this mode is identical to that of the "Words Only" mode described in Section II, page 4, as far as 492 ms, except that now the relay counter is now part of the system by reason of the switch settings on the Remote Control unit. Tape punch and printer cycles are initiated in the normal manner at 446 and 457 ms.

At 492 ms, closing of "Feedout" cam contact S-101 now is permitted to energize "Count Interlock" relay K-6 via "a" contact K-7-9 and "b" contact K-8-7, the latter being closed because "Blank" signals needed to energize "Blank or Preset" relay K-8 are now absent.

As a result, "b" contact K-6-2 opens at 497 ms, unseals and de-energizes "Count" relay K-5. Meanwhile "Count Interlock" relay K-6 seals in at 499 ms through "a" contact K-6-10 to keep relay K-5 isolated from energizing voltage present while "a" contact K-4-3 is closed. "Interlock Pulse" relay K-7, which had dropped out at 494 ms,

and "a" contact K-5-3 which opened at 507 ms (as described in Section II) now prevent "b" contact K-4-1 from de-energizing "Interlock Pulse" relay K-7 at 520 ms. All relays in the counter are de-energized, the counter is now in the "Complement" position, and the cycle is completed in the usual menner.

Upon receipt of a "Completion" signal, WWI places the "Complement" in the ges tube register and issues another "Print" signal at 543 ms. The resulting relay and tape unit operations are again the same as before, except that "a" contact K-5-6 is now open and the printer receives no 115-volt A-C signal through the Translator Relays (K-102 for example), hence no character is typed. The tape punch selector magnets are energized at 593 ms in accordance with relay register "a" contacts to punch the "Complement".

The closing of reeder "Feedout" cam contact S=101 at 639 ms energizes "Switch" relay K=4, and the closing of "a" contact K=4=3 at 643 ms energizes "Count" relay K=6 via "b" contact K=6=2, and the latter seals in at 650 ms through "a" contact K=5=9. Reclosing of "b" contact K=4=1 after "Feedout" cam contact S=101 opens energizes "Interlock Pulse" relay K=7, the relay counter once again attains the "Word" position, the cycle is completed at 690 ms, and the system is ready for the next "Word".

VI. Tape Unit "Start-Stop," Punched Taps Feedout, and Delay Control Relay Functions

A. "Start-Stop"

Pressing of the "Start" button (S-109 on the reader or S-301 on the printer) is necessary in readying the tape output equipment for operation with WWI after turning on the power. Its effect on the delay control circuits are as follows: pressing of the "Start" button first opens a "b" contact to disconnect the reader clutch magnet and then closes an "a" contact which energizes Clutch Control relay K-108. A "b" contact on this relay opens the reader clutch magnet circuit at a second point, and then an "a" contact energizes the pickup coil of Delay Control relay K-109. A "c" contact of K-109 first completes the circuit to the "buck" coil of this same relay, then an "a" contact in the clutch magnet circuit closes, and finally K-109 seals in through a second "a" contact and a 4000-ohm resistor R-106.

At this point (with the "Start" button still held down) both K=108 and K=109 are closed, and there are still two breaks in the reader clutch magnet circuit: one is the "b" contact on K=108 and the other is the "b" contact on the "Start" switch. Release of the "Start" button first opens the "a" contact and de=energizes Clutch Control relay K=108 which in turn closes the "b" contact in the reader clutch magnet circuit. Finally, closing of the "Start" button "b" contact completes the circuit to the clutch magnet. Only then can "a" contact K=1=6 of the "Print" relay energize the clutch magnet, trip the clutch and start the cam contact mechanism of the tape reader, hence the necessity of pressing the "Start" button after turning on the power.

B. Punched-Tape Feedout

In the tape punch, punched tape must travel from the perforating mechanism a distance of three or four inches to the point at which it emerges from the tear-off guide, so that after completing an output tape, the "Feedout" buttom on the tape punch is pressed to feed out about six inches of blank tape, after which the tape can be torn off. Obviously, of the "Feedout" button is not used, three or four inches of data bearing tape will be left inside the tape punch when the tape is torn off.

A possibility now arises where someone might press the "Feedout" button assuming that the computer has finished reading out data, and spoil the tape. To avoid this condition, the "Feedout" button is rendered electrically inoperative by means of the "Unlock-lock Control, WWI Input" switch when the latter is in the "lock Control, WWI INFUT" position. The "Clear" pushbutton on the Remote Control box is likewise rendered ineffective by the same switch, since it is also possible to spoil the preparation of an output tape by inadvertently pressing the "Clear" pushbutton.

D. Delay Control Relay Function

The printer must frequently execute tabular movements of the carriage, carriage returns, shifts for capitals or symbols, and other functions which would cause it to fall behind control signals from the tape reader, so that obviously some kind of delay must be provided to make the reader pause while the printer completes a function. This is accomplished by contacts in the printer which first de-energize the reader clutch magnet and then energize "Clutch Control" relay K-108 which in turn opens a "b" contact in the clutch magnet circuit. The reader cam shaft rotates to the point at which the clutch automatically disengages and stops. The clutch magnet is not able to trip the clutch until the printer completes its function.

Energizing of "Clutch Control" relay K-108 maintains voltage on the rickup coil of "Delay Control" relay K-109 during the delay period when a-c is flowing through one of the printer machine function solenoids that actuate the keyboard. This current flow creates a voltage drop across the buck coil rectifier SR-100 and its rectified cutput causes "Delay Control" relay K-109 to drop out and open the reader clutch magnet circuit. By this time K-108 has had time to close and maintain the open circuit.

Completion of a machine function closes the delay contacts, de-energizes "Clutch Control" relay K-108 which then energizes Delay Control relay K-109. An "a" contact on K-109 then completes the clutch magnet circuit, whereupon the clutch is tripped and the reader starts out on the next cycle.

VII. Special Circuit Provisions

In preliminary operational tests on the breadboard version of the tape output equipment, considerable difficulty arose from excessive transients put out on both the a-c and d-c power lines with amplitudes in the order of 100 volts or more and of frequencies in the megacycle region. R-F filters provided in the printer for the centri-fugally-controlled governor motor were insufficient for WWI standards so additional filtering consisting of L-8 and C-39 was provided in the 115-volt A-C power line at the point of entry into the relay cabinet.

In turning on the power to the tape output equipment, the possibility of originating a spurious "Completion" signal is eliminated by means of an R=C network cnnsisting of R-67, R-68, and C=26 connected in the #90 and =30 volt lines immediately after the single-stage L=C filters. Condenser C=26 limits the rate of rise of voltage on the "Completion" signal line to approximately 2.4 x 10⁴ volts per second, which is sufficiently low enough so that the pulse generator sees no more than approximately 0.8 volt at the instant the #90 volts is turned on, and can therefore produce no 0.1-microsecond "Completion" signal to interfere with other WWI operations. Note that this R=C network may be rendered ineffective if power to the Tape Output Equipment is turned on and off by means of the lever switch on the rack power control unit, since it is entirely possible that the #90 may appear before the -30, in which case a spurious "Completion" signal would result.

Large amplitude relay switching transients are eliminated from the \$150 line by means of a two-stage filter containing 1-4, L-5, and C-29 through C-31. Any remaining transient effects are less than WWI specifications of 1.5 volts permissible maximum.

VIII. Power Requirements, Recommended Fuse Ratings, and Circuit Conditions for Marginal Operation

The following tabulation shows the maximum a-c and d-c current inputs to the Tape Output Equipment during the various indicated modes of operation at rated nominal voltage, the fuse capacities required, and voltages resulting in marginal operation.

TABLE II

Supply Volts	Terminal No.	Max. Mi One-Hole	lliamps. Six-Hole	Recommended 3AG Fuse Sizes	Minimum Voltage for Marginal Operation
-150	E2-8	0.2	0.3	1/2	(Note 2)
-30	E2-6	0.1	0.1	1/2	-1 (Note 3)
-15	E2-4	15	15	1/2	-11 (Note 4)
690	E2-3	0,1	0,1	1/2	÷40
+150	E2-7	21	140	1	÷115
115 AC	a a	(2.3 emperes)		3 (Note 1)	95

- Note 1. Littelfuse "Slo-Blo" Cat. No. 313003, 250 volts or equivalent; all others Cat. No. 312500 (1/2 amp.) or Cat. No. 312001 (1 amp.) or equivalent.
- Note 2. Margin expressed in terms of minimum voltage on terminals El-1 through El-8 necessary to fire relay register gas tubes. These voltages range from \$170 to \$187 volts.
- Note 3. Equipment operates satisfactorily with almost negligible bias at this point, but disconnecting lead stops operation instantly.
- Note 4. Reader shaft stops at -10 volts; all relay register gas tubes fire at -3 volts.

IX. Summary

The Tape Output System has operated dependably over a period of several months, except for usual difficulties encountered in the tape units, such as a) stalling and scorching of driving motors in tape punch and reader because of incorrect fusing and insufficient aubrication reaching the shaft bearings, b) bad arcing and burning of reader "D-C Common" cam contact, c) stalling or jamming of carriage return mechanism in printer, or d) printer governor-motor inoperative because of faulty governor contacts.

The possibility of Tape Output System failure as a result of sticking of relay

armatures can be eliminated by a careful check of all plug-in Type J relays for incorrect residual and heel-piece gap settings. For the residual acrew setting a gap of 1.0 2 0.5 mil (measured between the armature and the abutting end of the relay core by meens of a feeler gauge) is recommended. For the heel-piece gap (measured by feeler gage between the hinged end of the armature and the abutting end of the heel piece of relay "frame" with the armature held closed) a clearance of 1.0 3 0.5 mil is also recommended.

Signed by James S. Honson

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Drawings attached:

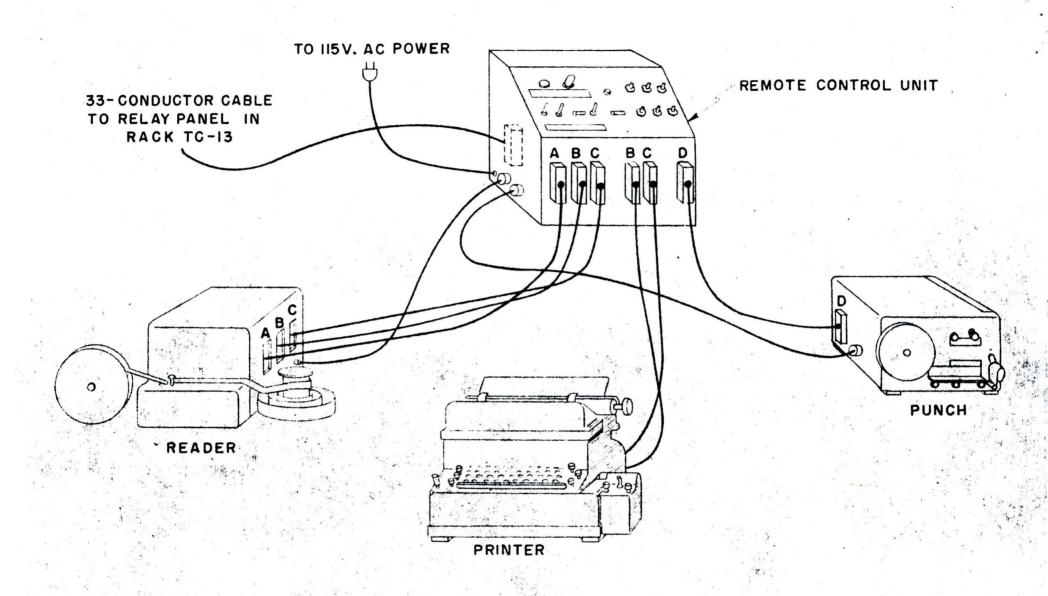
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TAPE OUTPUT SYSTEM CABLING BETWEEN READER, PRINTER, PUNCH, AND REMOTE CONTROL UNIT.

